(ii) Financial assistance in the form of subsidy is being given to the users.

(iii) Soft loan is being given to industries manufacturing Solar Energy appliances and also industries using solar-energy for heating through Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, a Government of India enterprise.

(iv) Fiscal concessions are being given to the manufacturers by means of exemption from duties and to users by means of higher depreciation.

(v) Mass awareness is being created through print as well as electronic media.

(vi) Workshops, seminars and training programmes are being organised to educate different categories of people.

(c) and (d) During 1991-92, a Central subsidy of Rs. 150/- for domestic solar cooker and Rs. 1050/- for community solar cooker is being provided. The programme is implemented through the State Nodal Agency, Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency.

Acute power shortage in Kerala

917. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kerala is faced with acute power shortage;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what projects are envisaged or are under consideration in order to over come this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) During the period April-January, 1992, the energy requirement in Kerala was 6125 million units against which the availability was 5924 million units which represents a shortfall of 3.3 per cent.

(c) The Eighth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised. The details of the sanctioned/on-going State Sector Schemes in Kerala are as under:—

	Name of the Scheme	Capacity
1	Kakkad Hydro Project	2x25 MW
2	Lower Periyar Hydro Project	3x60 MW
3	Muvathupuza Hydro Project	2x3.5 MW
4	Poringalkuthu L.B. Extension	1x16 MW

In addition the State will also get its due share from the Central Sector stations which would be set up in the Southern Region.

Pending Hydro electric projects

918. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various hydro-electric projects from different states are pending with Government for clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what are the reasons for the delay in their clearance; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to clear these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The details of the hydro electric projects referred to Central Electricity Authority and the Ministry of Environment & Forests for necessary clearances are given in the statement I and II (*see* below).